

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/733,191

Examiner

Vit W. Miska

Applicant(s)

LIZZI ET AL.

Art Unit

2841

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amdmnt of 7/22/2005 and Interview of 9/27/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 9/27/05.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

  
Vit W. Miska  
Primary Examiner

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with A. Schaier on 9/27/2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 19. A timepiece having a display for displaying a digit provided on a ring which itself has a plurality of digits provided thereon, wherein the timepiece comprises an integrated circuit operable in at least (i) a date display mode and (ii) a timer mode, wherein the timepiece further comprises:

a gearing assembly comprising one or more wheels, being meshingly coupled to the ring so that the rotation of the one or more wheels causes the rotation of the ring;

a motor, the motor rotatably coupled to the at least one or more wheels of the gearing assembly, wherein the motor has a rotatable member such that the rotation thereof causes the ring to rotate; and

mode selecting means for selecting between at least the date display mode and the timer mode;

wherein when in the date display mode the ring rotates at a first rate which is at least essentially  $(360/31)^\circ$  of rotation essentially every 24 hours and when in the timer mode the ring rotates at a second rate which is at least essentially  $(360/31)^\circ$  of rotation every period of time, wherein the period of time is less than 24 hours.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1-18 are allowed because the prior art does not disclose or suggest a timepiece with a ring for displaying digits and operable in a date display mode and counting mode, wherein the ring rotates at different rates in each mode and substantially the same digits are used for both the date display mode and counting mode. Claims 19-20 are allowed because the prior art does not disclose or suggest a timepiece with a ring for displaying digits and operable in a date display mode and timer mode, wherein in the timer mode the ring rotates at a rate of  $(360/31)^{\circ}$  in less than 24 hours. The Jeannet et al reference teaches display of date numeral 1-31 on a rotating ring, as well as year digits I-IV; however, no counting or timer mode is disclosed where the same ring rotates in less than 24 hours per time increment.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vit W. Miska whose telephone number is 571-272-2108. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, K. Cuneo can be reached on 571-272-1957. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

VM  
9/27/2005



Vit Miska  
Primary Examiner